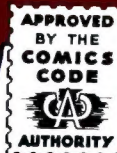




MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

HERE COMES...

DAREDEVIL



15
APR

IND.

12¢

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR

"..AND MEN
SHALL
CALL
HIM...
OX!"



DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

**"AND MEN SHALL
CALL HIM...OX!"**

A SWIRLING, STREAKING
SWASHBUCKLING FIGURE,
SWINGS ABOVE THE SPIRES OF
NEW YORK, AND OUR PULSE-
POUNDING SAGA *BEGINS--!*

HOW I'VE *LONGED*
FOR THIS MARVELOUS
MOMENT--TO BE BACK
IN *ACTION* AGAIN--FREE
AS A FALCON, WITH THE
WORLD AT MY FEET! THIS
IS WHERE I BELONG! THIS
IS MY FOOD, MY DRINK,
MY *LIFE*! THIS IS WHY
DAREDEVIL WAS BORN!

UNSURPASSED STORY
BY: STAN LEE

UNEXCELLED PENCILLING
BY: JOHN ROMITA

UNPARALLELED INKING
BY: FRANKIE RAY

UNABASHED LETTERING
BY: ARTIE SIMEK

DAREDEVILS ALL!

LIKE A RAMPAGING WRAITH, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR SILENTLY SKIMS THE CITY'S ROOFTOPS, UNTIL AT LAST--

I COULD SPEND THE ENTIRE NIGHT THIS WAY-- BUT I'VE GOT TO RETURN TO THE OFFICE BEFORE FOGGY!

HE THINKS I'M THERE NOW, WORKING LATE TO CATCH UP ON OUR LAW WORK!

I TOLD HIM I HAD THINGS TO ATTEND TO WHILE HE AND KAREN WENT TO DINNER!

AND, IN A WAY, I WAS TELLING THE TRUTH!

JUST IN TIME! I HEAR THEIR FOOTSTEPS, COMING OUT OF THE ELEVATOR!

BUT WAIT! SOMETHING SOUNDS WRONG!

I KNOW FOGGY'S TREAD AS WELL AS MY OWN NAME! BUT NOW--IT'S CHANGED!

HIS STEP IS HALTING-- UNBALANCED! AND KAREN'S IS HEAVIER THAN USUAL!

IT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING-- FOGGY IS HURT-- KAREN IS SUPPORTING HIM!

THEY'RE AT THE DOOR NOW! MY RADAR SENSE IS PICKING THEM UP! HE IS LEANING UPON HER!

I CAN HEAR HIS PULSE BEAT NOW! IT'S TOO SLOW-- ERRATIC! HE'S SICK! BUT, I MUSTN'T LET THEM KNOW I'M AWARE OF IT YET!

I HEARD SOMETHING! IS SOMEONE THERE? WHO IS IT?

OH, MATT! SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH FOGGY! I'M SO WORRIED!

AS WE WERE RETURNING TO THE OFFICE-- HE ALMOST PASSED OUT IN THE ELEVATOR! WHAT CAN IT BE?

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! IT HAPPENS SOMETIMES-- I GET DIZZY-- BECAUSE OF THAT BLOW-- MONTHS AGO-- FROM THE OX! * I GUESS-- I'M NOT FULLY RECOVERED YET!

TAKE IT EASY, FOGGY! I'LL SEND FOR THE DOCTOR!

I GUESS GUYS LIKE US AREN'T CUT OUT FOR HEROICS, MATT!

GUESS NOT!

*AS SEEN IN "THE FELLOWSHIP OF FEAR", DAREDEVIL #6, REMEMBER?--STAN.



I ALWAYS FELT THE OX WAS THE MOST DANGEROUS OF ALL THE "FELLOWSHIP OF FEAR"!

LUCKY HE WAS SO FEEBLE-MINDED! HAD HE BEEN INTELLIGENT, HE'D HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE MOST DEADLY MENACES EVER!

WELL, WE NEEDN'T WORRY! HE'S SAFELY BEHIND BARS NOW!

BUT, IRONICALLY--EVEN AS LOVELY KAREN PAGE CASUALLY INTONES THOSE WORDS--A SCENE TAKES PLACE AT STATE PRISON--A SCENE WHICH IS SOON TO AFFECT THE LIVES OF OUR LITTLE CAST OF CHARACTERS...

EASY, YOU BRAINLESS FOOL--EASY!

HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU--WORK ON THOSE BARS SLOWLY! WE MUSTN'T AROUSE THE SUSPICION OF THE GUARDS!

JUST WEAKEN THE BARS A LITTLE AT A TIME--UNTIL I'M READY!

CAN'T YOU EVEN GET THAT ONE SIMPLE THING THRU YOUR THICK, STUPID SKULL??!



I TOLD YA NEVER TO SAY THAT TO ME!

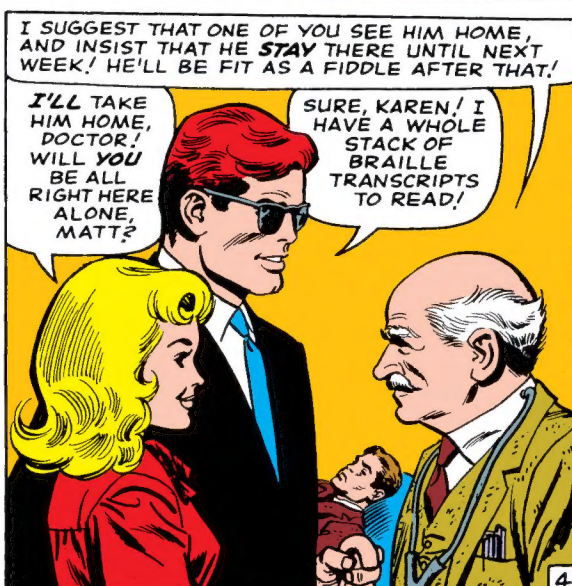
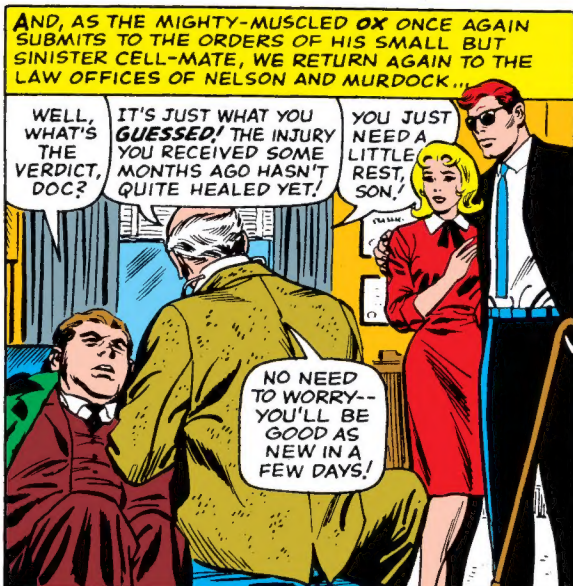
FOOL! IF THE GUARD HEARD THAT--WE'RE SUNK!

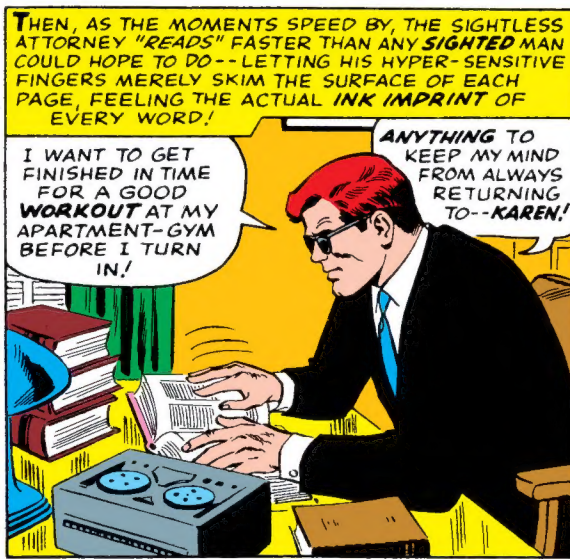
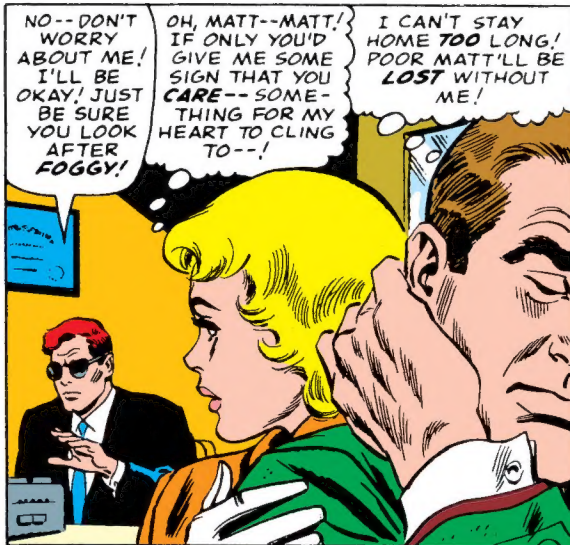
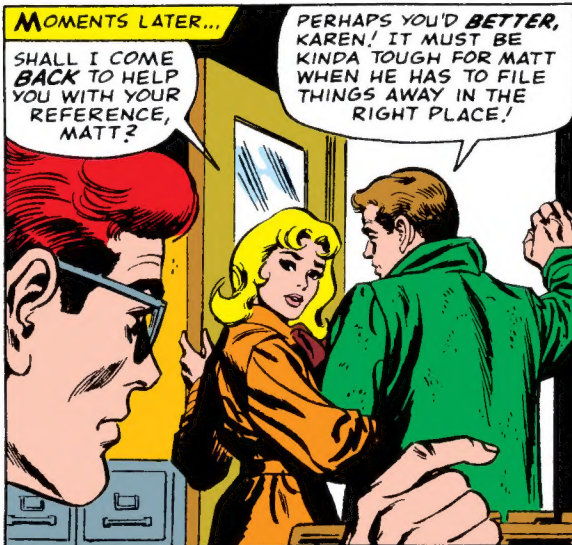
WHO CARES ABOUT THE GUARD? WHAT CAN HE DO TA ME?

ANYHOW, WHY SHOULD I WANNA ESCAPE? NOTHIN' FOR ME TA DO OUTSIDE! MEBBE--I'M BETTER OFF HERE!

I TOLD YOU--WHEN WE GET OUT, I CAN HELP YOU! I CAN--QUIET!

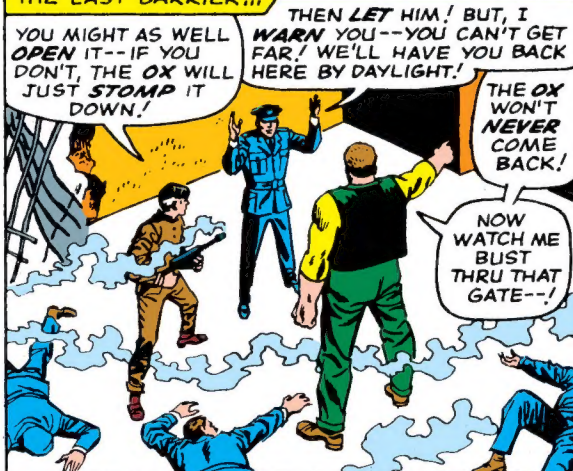
GUARDS! THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!



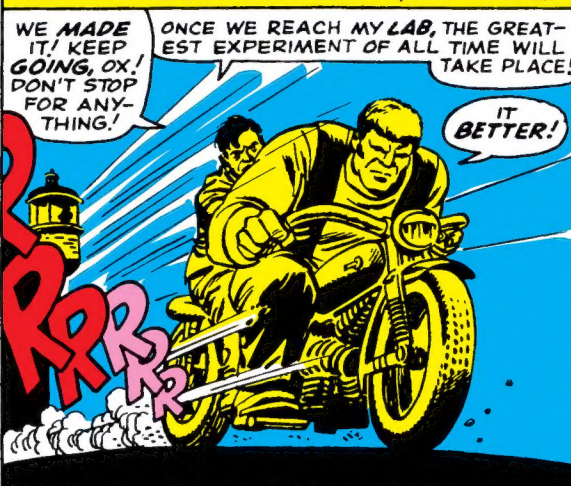




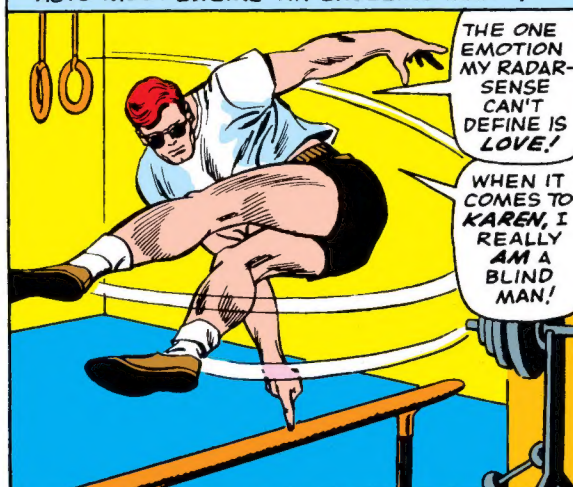
AIDED BY THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE, BUT MOSTLY DUE TO THE OX'S AWESOME POWER, DR. STRAGG AND HIS POWERFUL PARTNER FINALLY REACH THE LAST BARRIER...



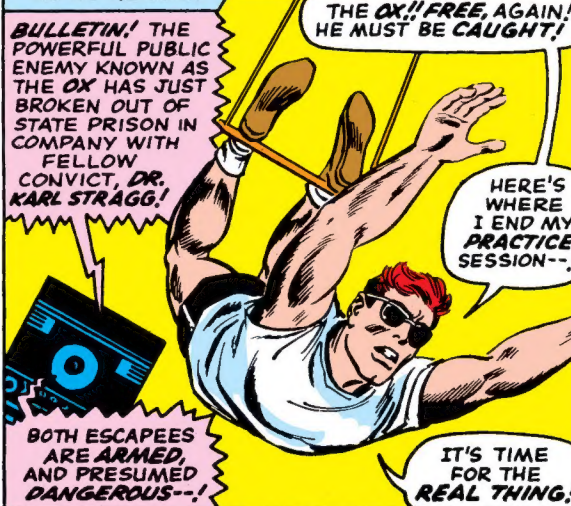
SECONDS LATER, HAVING TORN THE GATE FROM ITS HINGES BY SHEER BRUTE STRENGTH, THE OX SEIZES A NEARBY MOTORCYCLE, AND THEN...

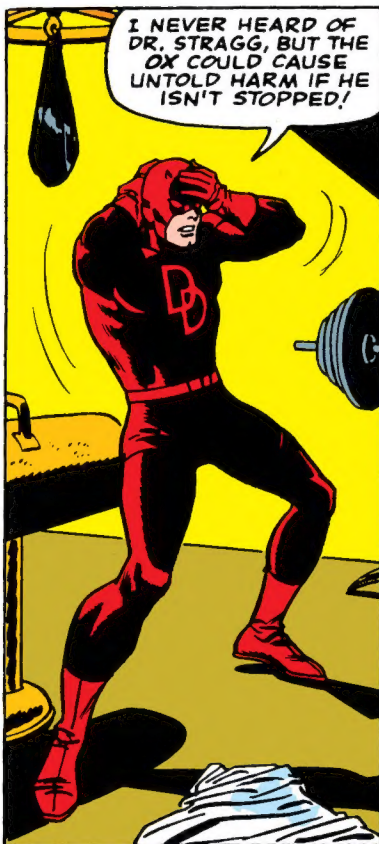


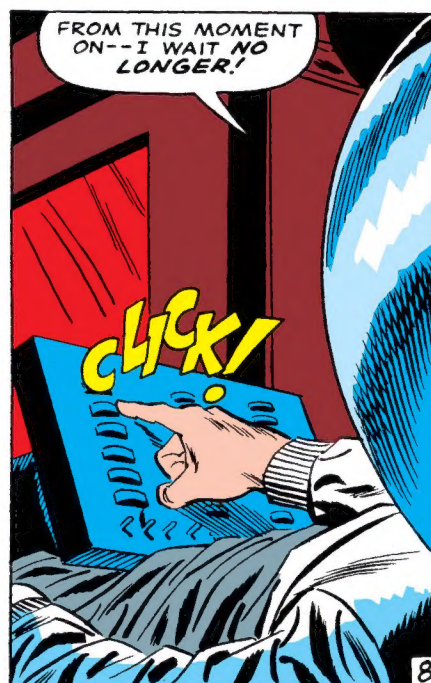
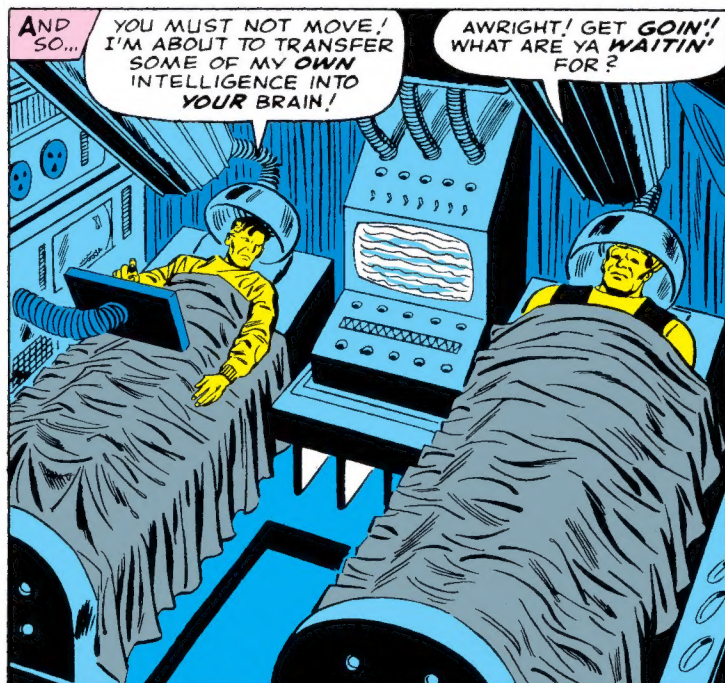
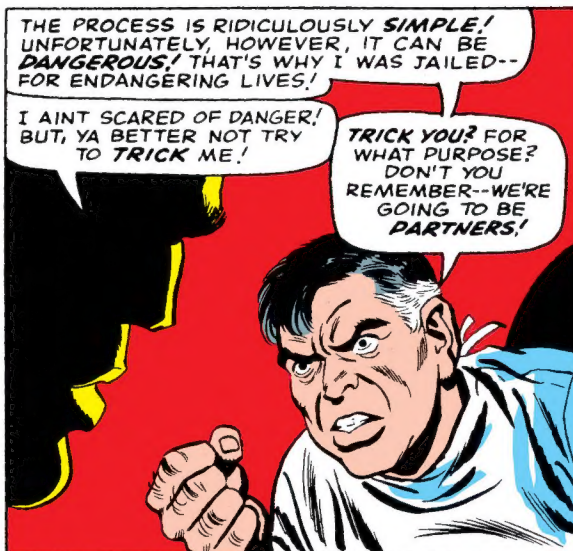
AND, SOME DISTANCE AWAY, IN THE WELL-EQUIPPED GYM BENEATH HIS APARTMENT, MATT MURDOCK ACTS MOST *UNLIKE* AN UNSEEING MAN--!



BUT, MATT'S REVERIE IS SUMMARILY SHATTERED AS HE HEARS...









I--I'M **SMALLER** THAN I WAS--I'M **WEAKER**! IT AINT POSSIBLE--I DON'T KNOW HOW YA **DID** IT-- BUT--I--I'M IN YOUR **BODY**!

I'M NO SMARTER THAN BEFORE--BUT **NOW**-- I'M A **WEAKLING** BESIDES!

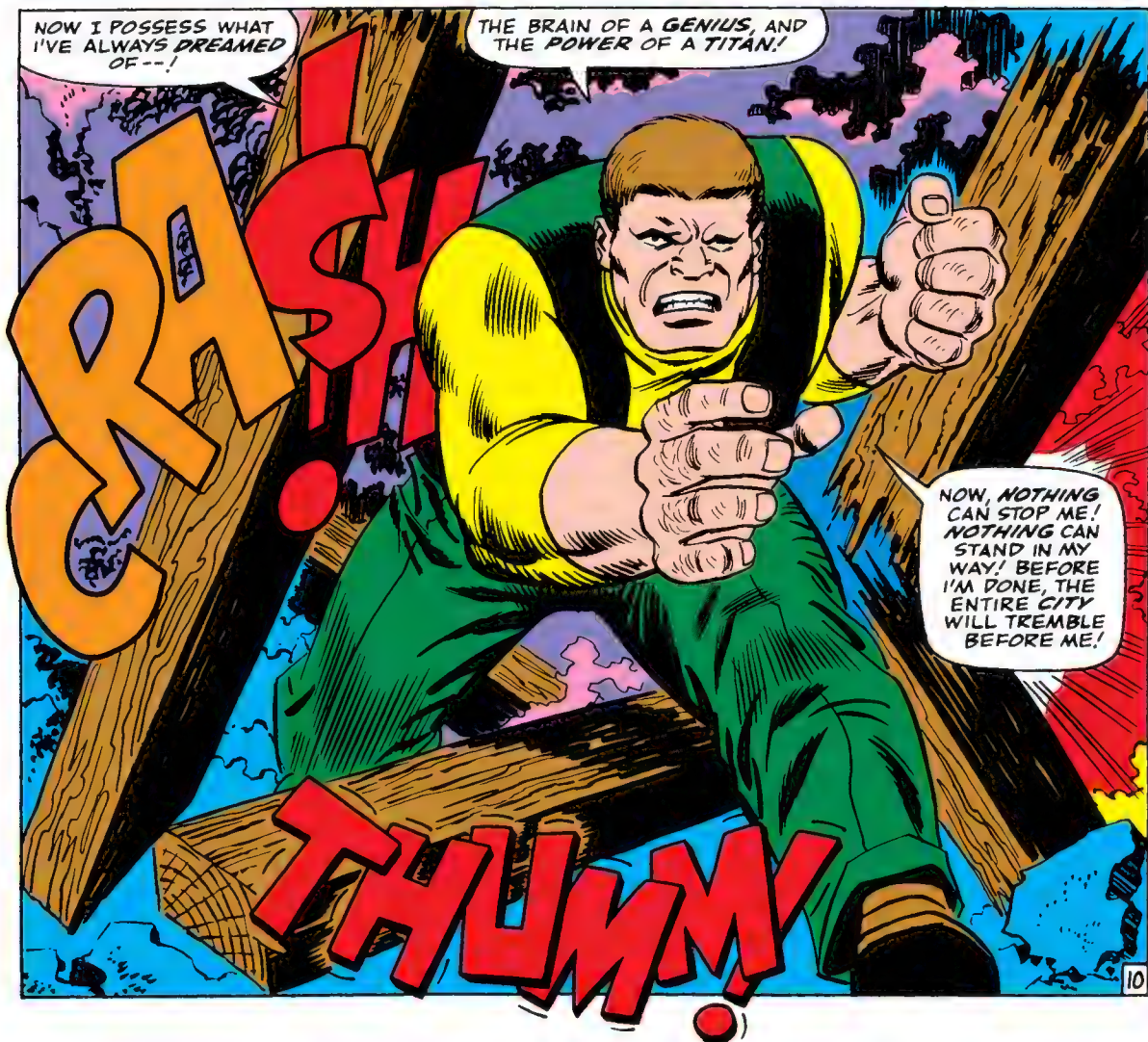
PRECISELY!



AND NOW-- YOU'VE **SERVED** YOUR PURPOSE TO ME! I NEED YOU NO LONGER!

THE VERY SIGHT OF YOUR **WEAK** BODY OFFENDS ME! I **DESPISE** WEAKNESS! I'VE **ALWAYS** DESPISED IT! AND NOW, THRU MY OWN WIZARDRY, I'VE **OVERCOME** THE **WEAKNESS** I WAS **BORN** WITH!

WAP!



NOW I POSSESS WHAT I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF--!

THE **BRAIN** OF A **GENIUS**, AND THE **POWER** OF A **TITAN**!

NOW, **NOTHING** CAN STOP ME! **NOTHING** CAN STAND IN MY WAY! BEFORE I'M DONE, THE **ENTIRE CITY** WILL TREMBLE BEFORE ME!

THUD!

MEANWHILE, DAREDEVIL'S INDESCRIBABLY ACUTE HEARING "TUNES IN" ON THE SHORT WAVE POLICE BROADCASTS WHICH ARE BOMBARDING THE AIR ABOUT HIM...

I'M HEADING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION! ACCORDING TO THE ALL-POINTS ALARMS I'M RECEIVING, THE OX WAS SEEN UPTOWN!



"UPTOWN" IS A PRETTY BIG AREA, BUT ONCE I GET GOING, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ZERO IN ON HIM WITHOUT TOO MUCH TROUBLE!



AND, A FEW MILES AWAY, AT THE EDGE OF CENTRAL PARK, MANAGING TO KEEP A FEW STEPS AHEAD OF HIS PURSUERS, DR. KARL STRAGG, IN HIS NEW, AWESOMELY POWERFUL FORM, RUNS AMOK-- INTOXICATED BY A NEVER-BEFORE-EXPERIENCED SENSE OF UNLIMITED STRENGTH--!*

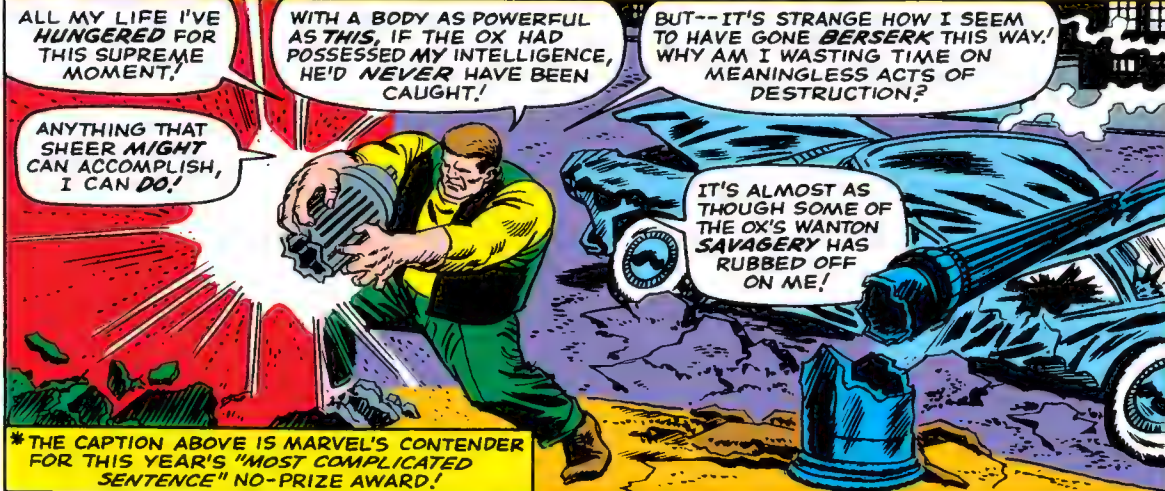
ALL MY LIFE I'VE HUNGRED FOR THIS SUPREME MOMENT!

WITH A BODY AS POWERFUL AS THIS, IF THE OX HAD POSSESSED MY INTELLIGENCE, HE'D NEVER HAVE BEEN CAUGHT!

BUT-- IT'S STRANGE HOW I SEEM TO HAVE GONE BERSERK THIS WAY! WHY AM I WASTING TIME ON MEANINGLESS ACTS OF DESTRUCTION?

ANYTHING THAT SHEER MIGHT CAN ACCOMPLISH, I CAN DO!

IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH SOME OF THE OX'S WANTON SAVAGERY HAS RUBBED OFF ON ME!



*THE CAPTION ABOVE IS MARVEL'S CONTENDER FOR THIS YEAR'S "MOST COMPLICATED SENTENCE" NO-PRIZE AWARD!

THEN, FORCING HIMSELF INTO A MOOD OF DEADLY CALM, THE HUGE, MARAUDING FIGURE TURNS AND LUMBERS OFF AGAIN-- INTO THE ALL-CONCEALING DARKNESS--!

I'VE GOT TOO MANY THINGS TO DO-- IMPORTANT THINGS-- WITHOUT WASTING TIME ON USELESS TESTS OF MY STRENGTH!

IF ONLY I KNEW WHY I FEEL SO-- SO DIFFERENT!

IT'S GETTING HARD TO REMEMBER WHAT MY PLANS WERE!

BUT, IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! I MUST JUST BE TIRED-- THAT'S ALL!



EVEN AS THE MIGHTY-MUSCLED POWERHOUSE STALKS OUT OF THE PARK, A FEARLESS ADVENTURER, HIGH ABOVE THE CITY'S ROOFTOPS, RAPIDLY DRAWS CLOSER TO HIS PREY...!

NEW POLICE CALLS COMING IN! SENSELESS DAMAGE DISCOVERED AT THE COLUMBUS CIRCLE SECTION OF THE PARK!



LUCKILY, THE OX IS LEAVING A TRAIL THAT ANYONE COULD FOLLOW-- ANYONE NAMED DAREDEVIL, THAT IS!

HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO THINK HOW IMPORTANT A ROLE **COINCIDENCE** PLAYS IN OUR DAILY LIVES? FOR EXAMPLE, JUST AS THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR REACHES THE VICINITY OF CENTRAL PARK SOUTH, **FATE** STEPS IN WITH AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT! WATCH--

HE'S GOT TO BE SOMEWHERE IN THIS AREA! I'D BETTER SWING CLOSER TO THE GROUND AND HOPE MY **RADAR SENSE** CAN SPOT HIM!



SO FAR, ALL I CAN HEAR BELOW IS ONE PAIR OF LIGHT FOOTSTEPS-- OBVIOUSLY A **GIRL'S**!

WAIT! IT'S NOT JUST ANY GIRL! I'D KNOW THOSE FOOTSTEPS ANYWHERE!



IT'S **KAREN**!

I **FORGOT** THAT SHE LIVES IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!

BUT, I HAVE TO **WARN** HER! IF THE **OX** SEES HER--HE'LL REMEMBER HER FROM THE LAST TIME--WHEN HE SAW HER WITH **FOGGY**!



NEW FOOTSTEPS!! INCREDIBLY **HEAVY**! I'M TOO LATE--IT'S **HIM**!

BUT THEN, SUDDENLY SEEING THE LUMBERING FIGURE BEFORE HER, THE STARTLED GIRL **PANICS**, AS HER HIGH-PITCHED **SCREAM** RINGS THRU THE NIGHT--!

THE **OX**!! Y-YOU'RE **FREE**! YOU'VE RETURNED!! OH NO!! **NOOOOO!**

WHOEVER SHE IS, SHE **KNOWS** THE **OX**! I'D BETTER FIND OUT HOW-- AND WHY! SHE MIGHT BE **DANGEROUS** TO ME IN MY NEW IDENTITY!

STAY WHERE YOU **ARE**! DON'T TRY TO RUN! YOU CAN'T ESCAPE FROM ME!

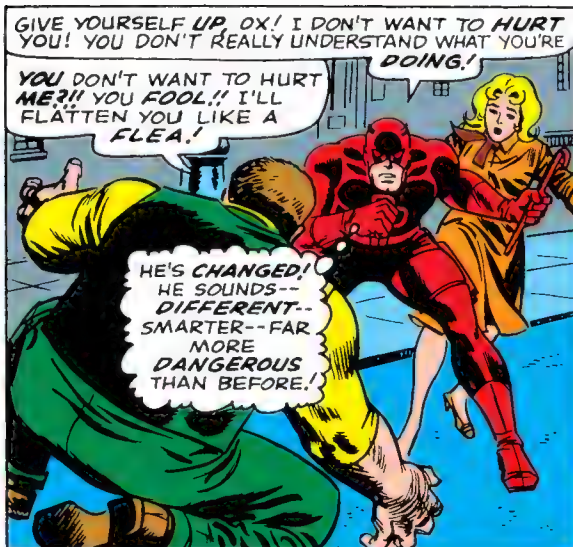


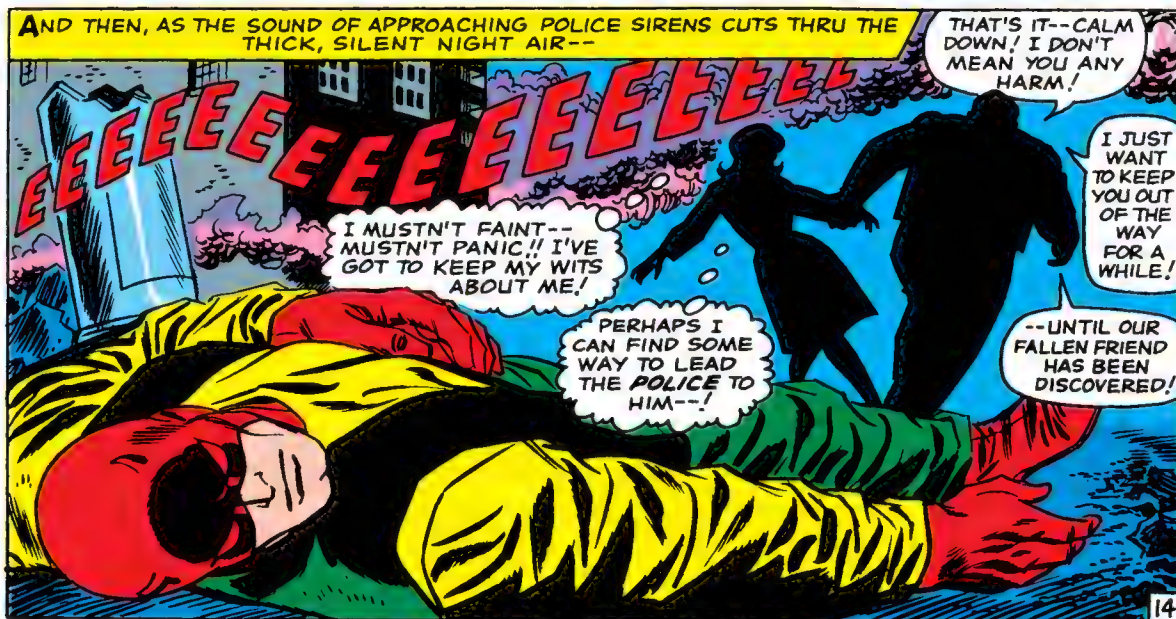
DON'T **BET** ON IT, MISTER!

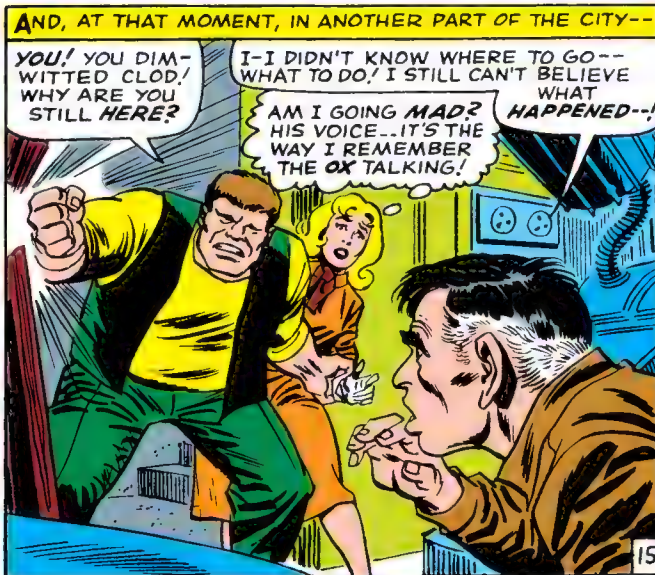
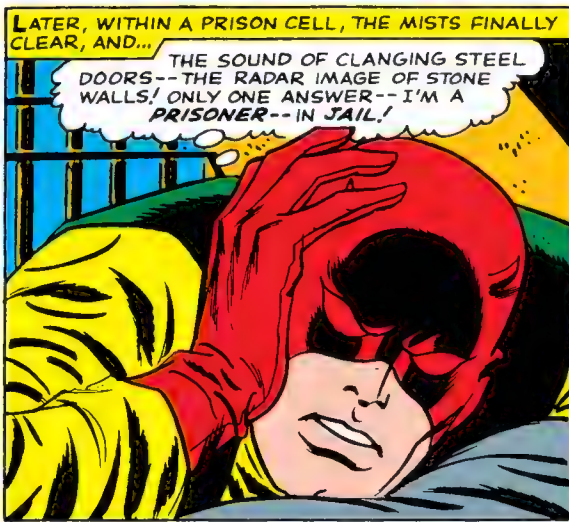
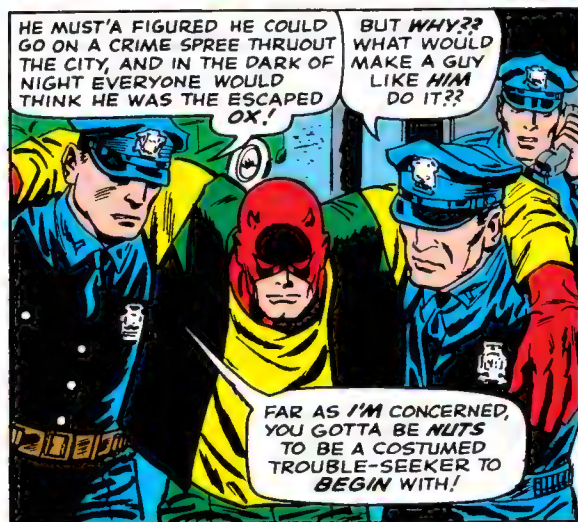


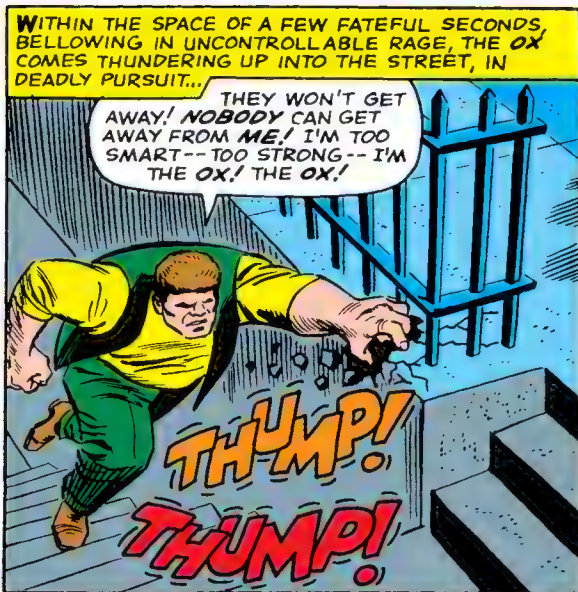
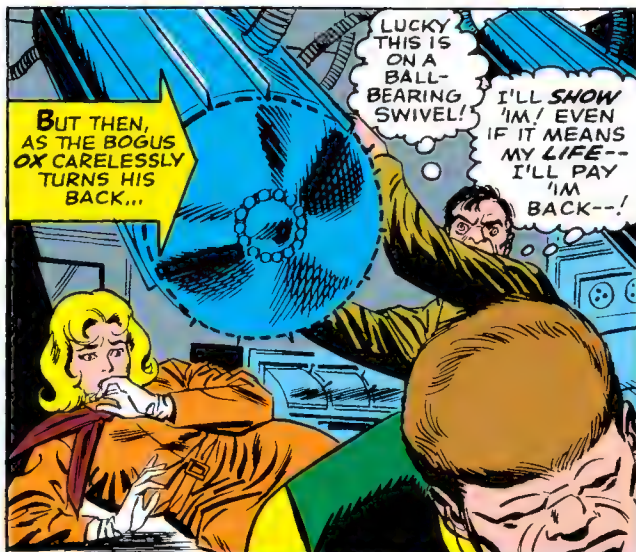
UHHHHH!

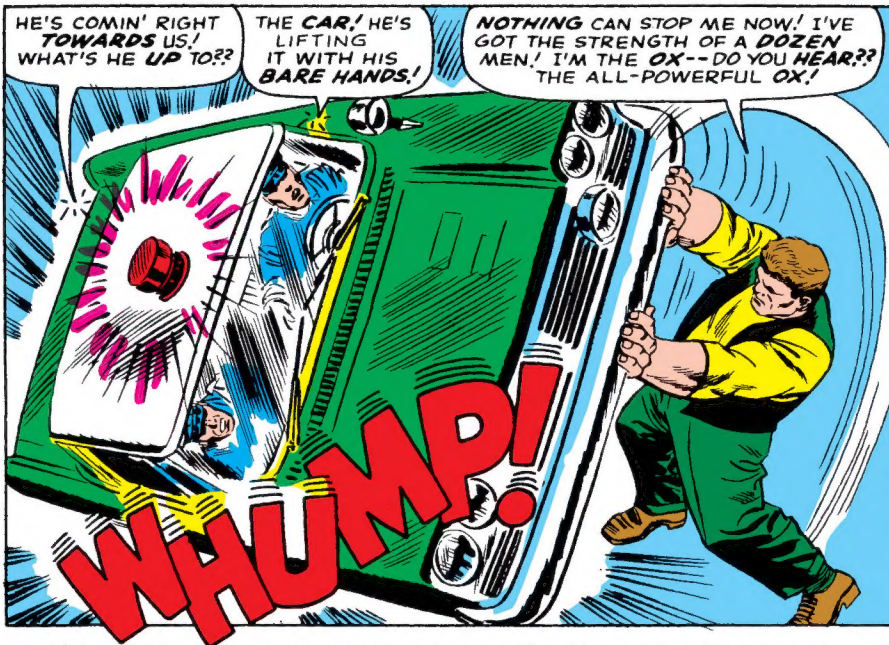
DAREDEVIL!! --THANK HEAVENS!











HE'S COMIN' RIGHT TOWARDS US! WHAT'S HE UP TO??

THE CAR! HE'S LIFTING IT WITH HIS BARE HANDS!

NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW! I'VE GOT THE STRENGTH OF A DOZEN MEN! I'M THE OX--DO YOU HEAR?? THE ALL-POWERFUL OX!

THEN, AS THE TRAPPED OFFICERS STRUGGLE TO OPEN THE DOORS, WHICH HAVE BEEN JAMMED WITH TWO IRON-FISTED BLOWS...

THEY WON'T GET AWAY! NO MATTER WHERE THEY RUN-- THEY CAN'T ESCAPE ME!



AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

YOUR LAWYER, FRANKLYN NELSON, GOT A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS FOR YOUR RELEASE, MISTER!

BUT IT WASN'T NECESSARY! THE OX IS ON A RAMPAGE ACROSS TOWN RIGHT NOW! SO, WE KNOW THAT YOU'RE INNOCENT, LIKE YOU SAID!

BUT, THE GIRL! WHAT ABOUT THE GIRL? SPEAK, MAN!



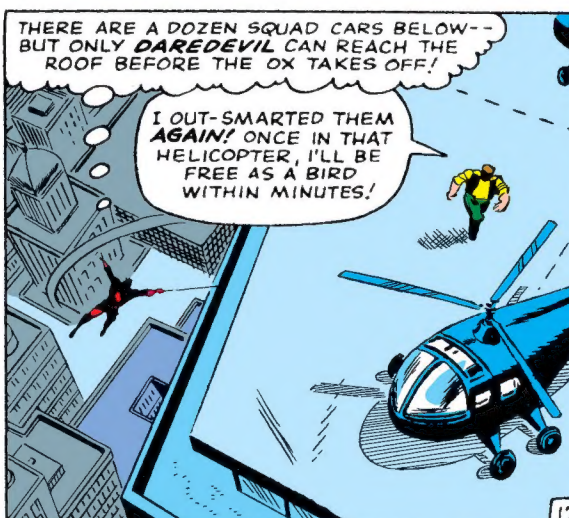
AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN HELPED HER TO ESCAPE! BUT THE OX WAS LAST SEEN HEADING TOWARDS THE WEST SIDE ROOF-TOP HELIPORT!

BUT DON'T WORRY-- THE AREA WILL BE CORDONED OFF BEFORE HE CAN ESCAPE US AGAIN!

HE'S TOO POWERFUL! SOMEONE WILL BE HURT! I'VE GOT TO REACH HIM FIRST!



WE'VE GOT A PRIVATE DEBT TO SETTLE-- JUST THE TWO OF US!



THERE ARE A DOZEN SQUAD CARS BELOW-- BUT ONLY DAREDEVIL CAN REACH THE ROOF BEFORE THE OX TAKES OFF!

I OUT-SMARTED THEM AGAIN! ONCE IN THAT HELICOPTER, I'LL BE FREE AS A BIRD WITHIN MINUTES!

